

San Diego Police Department

Mid City Juvenile Bureau

For Immediate Release February 15, 2007 8:30 am – 12:00 pm Contact: John Minto Juvenile Bureau (619) 516-3000

TRUANCY SWEEP IN CITY HEIGHTS

The goal of the truancy sweep is to keep students in school and safe. Students and parents must understand truancy will not be tolerated. While a diminished education is the most obvious adverse experience a student encounters when they are absent from school, students absent from school present a greater opportunity to become the victim of a crime, and commit crimes.

Those students who are arrested will be cited and released into the custody of a parent. Prior to the release, students and their parents will be given the opportunity to participate in a diversion program. The program is operated by a community based organization employing professionals that explore the issues causing the truancy and provide the parents and students with the appropriate and necessary training to make better decisions. Students who complete diversion programs successfully will not have to appear in court. The idea of diversion is to keep the student out of the juvenile justice system.